



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 7388/72545

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YAMASOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 1615

Application No.: 10/019,400

Filed: December 28, 2001

For: PACK PACKAGE AND PACKAGED PATCH

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April 19, 2002

**SUBMISSION OF TRANSLATED PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

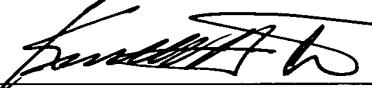
Dear Sir:

Applicant enclose a translated PCT International Preliminary Examination Report, PCT Article 36 and Rule 70, for the Examiner's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By:


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Translation

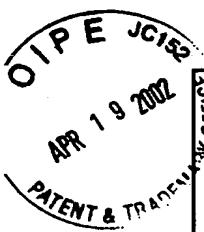
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference FP00-0148-00	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/JP00/04352	International filing date (day/month/year) 30 June 2000 (30.06.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 02 July 1999 (02.07.99)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B65D 81/24, B32B 27/20, A61K 9/70		
Applicant HISAMITSU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., INC.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 15 November 2000 (15.11.00)	Date of completion of this report 11 July 2001 (11.07.2001)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/04352

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

 the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19)

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

 the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages _____ the claims, Nos. _____ the drawings, sheets/fig _____5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/04352

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	2-4	YES
	Claims	1,5	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Claim 1

Document 1 [JP, 4-189779, A (Marutani Kakoki K.K.) 8 July 1992 (08.07.92) Entire text; Figs. 1-4] describes a packaging bag for medications comprising a laminated packaging material consisting of a moisture-absorbing layer and water-permeable adhesive film. The numerical ranges specified in this Claim can easily be met by persons skilled in the art. Therefore, persons skilled in the art could easily invent the invention set forth in Claim 1 based on the description in document 1.

Claim 5

Document 2 [CD-ROM of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 59899/1993 (Laid-open No. 28550/1995) (Sekisui Chemical Co., Ltd.) 30 May 1995 (30.05.95) Full text; Figs. 1-6] describes a packaged plaster having as its main body a carrier and a rubber adhesive with a styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer laminated on that carrier. The laminate on the inner surface of the packaging bag can easily be specified by persons skilled in the art. Therefore, persons skilled in the art could easily invention the invention set forth in Claim 5 based on the descriptions in documents 1 and 2.